



Washington, D.C. 20505

4 January 1980

Dear Bernie,

Several months ago our Office of Strategic Research completed what I believe is an interesting study on Soviet military aircraft maintenance (attached). Your staff may already have brought this to your attention, but I just wanted to ensure that that was the case. ☐

The implications of this study as I see them are:

- The Soviet system for maintaining their aircraft is extremely expensive--hence, they get less bang for their buck, at least in this department.

- Through a combination of frequent maintenance and low operating rates, the Soviet air force regularly has a high rate of equipment readiness. Concomitantly, because of their low operating rates their personnel readiness must be low and, hence, one would assume they have a low rate of total system operational readiness--that is, unless we overtrain our people.

- The Soviet air force is not prepared for prolonged combat. ☐

All the best to you and Ann.

Yours,

STANSFIELD TURNER

☐  
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